

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, March 2, 2023 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson Bryan Ferguson called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Chaplain Brenda Puckett provided the invocation.
- III. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
Bryan Ferguson, Chairperson	Yes	
Annie Holt	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell		Excused
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
Ricardo Moore		Excused
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
Rev. Jim Holley, PhD.	Yes	
QuanTez Pressley	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	10	

- IV. **Chairperson Ferguson** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, March 2, 2023. The Agenda was amended to add Item VI, Personnel & Training Committee Report. The motion was accepted and adopted.
- V. **Chairperson Ferguson** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for February 23, 2023, with any corrections. The minutes were adopted as presented.
- VI. **Personnel & Training Committee Report.**

Commissioner Hernandez provided a report from the Personnel & Training Committee regarding the negotiations that occurred last week with candidates for the Secretary to the Board and Chief Investigator positions.

Commissioner Hernandez motioned "that the Board of Police Commissioners appoint Ms. Victoria Shah to the position of Board Secretary for the salary of \$115,000." The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 0 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Hernandez, Holley

Commissioner Hernandez motioned "that the Board of Police Commissioners rescind the previous motion to provide an offer letter to Mr. Jerome Warfield for the position of Chief Investigator at the salary of \$105,000." The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 0 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Hernandez, Holley

Commissioner Hernandez motioned “to refer this matter back to the Personnel and Training Committee to provide a new recommendation candidate for the position of Chief Investigator to the Board by Thursday, March 16, 2023.”

VOTE: **YES = 6** **NO = 0** **MOTION: ADOPTED**

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Hernandez, Holley

VII. Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives.

VIII. Chair’s Report. Chairperson Ferguson reported on BOPC and DPD activities and provided updates, and reports for the Board and the community.

IX. Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police’s Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information: Chief James E. White reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property; COVID-19 impacts; and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community.

The following inquires require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD: **Commissioner Hernandez** asked whether there will be a refresh of the 5-Point Plan implemented last year with so many changes that have occurred? **Chief White** expressed, the plan was very successful last year, and we are going forward with the tenets of the 5-Point Plan, we are not going to refresh, we are going to add more resources. **Commissioner Hernandez** inquired about the opportunities for vest fitting; will there be upgrades to the caliber and range of protection for officers? **Chief White** indicated the vest upgrade was negotiated in the LSA union contract, and the department plans to provide new vest to the entire department. **Commissioner Banks** asked for a briefing for the community on what DPD is instituting to bringing down violent crime? **Chief White** stated, they have a strategy that is based on data that tells us where the violent crime is happening. We are utilizing our data, deploying in those areas, looking for violent offenders in those areas. Those people who historically victimize the community; those people we have violent felony warrants out for their arrest; increasing our patrols and increasing our community engagement. We are looking for collaboration to reduce crime with all of our partners, our federal partners, our state partners, utilizing our local partners. We are going to do everything we can to provide a safer community for our residents. **Commissioner Banks** expressed 4 or 5 years ago the 9th Precinct, zip code 48205 was leading in crime. What are some other areas, precincts, or zip codes that are having a major problem with crime? **Chief White** stated the Ninth Precinct has done a phenomenal job in driving down crime, there’s a slight uptick in some precincts for the first quarter. **Commissioner Pressley** asked for an update on the non-lethal equipment the department has acquired, and the status of the policy development on the use of that equipment. **Chief White** stated, they do have some non-lethal weapons that DPD purchased, and we want to make sure that we bring this Board as well as City-Council a strong policy recommendation. We have implemented a special order to use it now, and performing a proof of concept, and then we will be providing a comprehensive assessment on the tools and making the recommendations so that we can budget for a full department implementation. Right now, we have a small group, our mental health team. These are no guarantees or replacement for lethal force. These are non-lethal options to use when it applies. **Commissioner Pressley** requested clarity on the technical definition of mass shootings and inquired whether a program of mentorship has been created for those who are being promoted? **Chief White** provided the federal definition of mass shootings four or more people shot at one time and shared there is a citywide leadership program for mentorship. **Commissioner Burton** asked how many health professionals in the past two months have gone on runs with the police. He mentioned that several years ago he raised questions regarding officers wearing Level 3 Vest. Have our officers started transitioning into Level 3 Vest to give them the extra protection they need while they are in the field, also do you know whether this year or next year the entire department will be wearing the higher vests? **Chief White** mentioned the recent discussion the department is transitioning to a higher threat level vest. Which came out of the contract negotiation. By policy we will implement them for the police officers, by contract we will implement them for Lieutenants and Sergeants. **Commissioner Holley** suggested in May or April to implement a State of Crime Safety Report to the City of Detroit involving community leaders, neighborhood block presidents, and youth. **Chief White** indicated he would give it consideration making sure that it’s outcome based. **Commissioner Bernard** raised questions on the current status of DPD Budget and if DPD would share the questions and their response to City Council on the Budget with the Board. What is the status of summer employment with the department and how will the police department engage the youth this summer? In regards to the two officers that were killed, will there be a department

funeral? **Chief White** stated their Budget has been submitted, they have not received any questions at this time. He mentioned there is a City Program that DPD will be partnering with the Mayor's office that will hire around 7,000 youth this summer. He stated the funeral will be March 11, 2023.

A. Chief of Police James E. White's Recommendation for Executive Appointment to the Ranks of Commander and Captain.

Commissioner Hernandez motioned to "accept Chief White's recommendation for executive appointment to the rank of Captain for Lieutenant Philip Rodriguez Jr." The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 8 NO = 0 Motion: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Burton, Hernandez, Holley, Pressley

Commissioner Hernandez motioned to "accept Chief White's recommendation for executive appointment to the rank of Commander for Captain Shelley Holderbaum." The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 9 NO = 0 Motion: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Burton, Carter, Hernandez, Holley, Pressley

B. Chief of Police James E. White's Recommendation to Promote to the Ranks of Lieutenant and Sergeant (Seventh Round)

Vice Chairperson Holt motioned to "accept Chief White's recommendation to promote to the rank of Lieutenant." The motion was adopted.

Sergeant Adam N. Smith
Sergeant Myron P. Watkins
Sergeant Timothy M. Barr

Sergeant Ransom C. Williams
Sergeant Michael Moreland

VOTE: YES = 8 NO = 1 Motion: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners, Bernard, Burton, Carter, Hernandez, Holley, Pressley

No: Commissioner Banks

Vice Chairperson Holt motioned to "accept Chief White's recommendation to promote to the rank of Sergeant." The motion was adopted.

Police Officer Brian R. Gadwell
Police Officer Donald G. Bussa
Detective Marlon L. Binion
Police Officer Alexander C. Gunther
Detective Lemuel R. Sims
Detective Terrence M. Flanders
Detective Shamar B. Carey

Police Officer Jeb S. Rutledge
Police Officer Amir J. Clemons
Police Officer Gwendolyn C. Aikens
Detective Jovance Peek
Police Officer Jeremy J. Robson
Detective Shuma Goins
Police Officer Patrick F. Mifsud

VOTE: YES = 9 NO = 0 Motion: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Ferguson, Vice Chairperson Holt, Commissioners Banks, Bernard, Burton, Carter, Hernandez, Holley, Pressley

X. Oral Communications / Public Comments.

Lieutenant Mark Young, Ms. Audrey Moore, Mr. Bob Carmack, Ms. Carolyn Nichols, Ms. Roslyn Banks, Ms. Cindy Durrah, Ms. Yolanda McCants, Mr. James Ford, Ms. Brenda Hill, Former Commissioner William Davis, Ms. Marguerite Maddox, 534, Motor City Roo, and Minister Eric Blount provided public comments.

XI. Report on Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:

1. Correspondence from Chief of Police James E. White Re: DPD Support Letter
2. Executive Appointment to the Rank of Commander
3. Executive Appointment to the Rank of Captain
4. Correspondence from Yoniqua Coleman

XII. Announcements.

Chairperson Ferguson announced the following:

Community Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., at Historic Second Baptist Church, 441 Monroe St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., at Fraternite Notre Dame, 13640 Van Dyke Ave., Detroit, MI 48234.

Monthly Committee Meetings Schedule for March 2023 – Every 2nd Wednesday

Budget Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
Personnel & Training Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.
Policy Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
Citizen Complaints Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

All Committee Meetings will take place in the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

XIII. New Business.

XIV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Ferguson adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.